

*California Department of Food & Agriculture*

**Minutes**

of the Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board Meeting/Conference Call  
held on

June 28, 2007 at CDFA Headquarters in Sacramento, CA

**PD/GWSS BOARD**

**Members Present**

Kevin Andrew\*

Dennis Atkinson\*

Greg Coleman

Edgar "Pete" Downs

Ben Drake

Hugh "Wally" Ewart\*

Andrew Johnson\*

Brad Lange

Frank Leeds\*

Steve McIntyre\*

Dana Merrill\*

Al Rossini

Herb Schmidt

Jim Unti\*

**Members Absent**

Steve Schafer

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

George Bruening

Tom Esser

Mike Falasco\*

Ken Freeze\*

Craig Hanes

Roger Innes\*

Nancy Irelan\*

Paul Kronenberg

Janet LeMasters

Kevin Masuhara

Greg Morris

Kari Morrow

Stacie Oswalt

Ted Rieger

Karen Ross\*

Roger Spencer

Beth Stone-Smith\*

Bob Wynn

\*Denotes attendance via conference call

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ben Drake called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Bob Wynn conducted the roll call. A quorum was present.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Bob Wynn thanked the Board members for attending the meeting and asked non-members to introduce themselves. Bob then introduced Kevin Masuhara, the newly appointed CDFA County/State Liaison.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**OPENING REMARKS**

Chairman Ben Drake welcomed the Board members. Ben acknowledged the members for the time they had set aside in their schedules to attend the meeting. Bob Wynn apologized for the cancellation of the trip to Washington D.C. and said that the trip may be scheduled later in the year.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- It was **M/S/P** by the Board to approve the Board's portion of the minutes of the joint Board / Advisory Task Force (ATF) meeting held in Sacramento on Monday, April 23, 2007. At the upcoming November 1 and 2 meeting, the ATF will vote on its portion of the minutes.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Janet LeMasters reported on her findings for a location and hotel to hold the joint Board and ATF meeting in November. The meeting site choices were Sonoma, Paso Robles, and Shell Beach. The Board agreed to hold the meeting at The Renaissance Lodge at Sonoma on November 1 and 2, 2007.

## **BOARD'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-08**

Bob Wynn gave an overview of the 2007-08 projected revenue and expenses. Bob and the Board reviewed the PD/GWSS Board's Estimated Revenues, Expenditures, and Budget Report; the PDCP State Program Operations Revenue and Expenditures Report; and the PD/GWSS Board's Fiscal Information.

- It was **M/S/P** to recommend to the Secretary to approve the Board's budget for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 in the amount of \$7,832,363.

## **ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2007 HARVEST**

Led by Bob Wynn and Jim Unti, the Board discussed the upcoming winegrape assessment rate for the 2007 harvest. Members discussed reducing the assessment rate from \$2.00 to \$1.50. They are projecting a larger crop for 2007 and there are surplus monies in the budget from previous years.

- It was **M/S/P** to recommend to the Secretary to reduce the current winegrape assessment rate from \$2.00 to \$1.50 per \$1,000 value of grapes for the 2007 harvest season.

## **RESEARCH PROGRAM UPDATE**

PD/GWSS Research Director Nancy Ireland gave an update on recent research activities. Entry of research database material into the PIPRA online database has been completed. The Research Scientific Advisory Panel (RSAP) has reviewed all of the recent research projects and met in Bakersfield on May 10-11, 2007. Its draft report would be complete and available on July 2, 2007. Outreach efforts continue, with articles about PD/GWSS research being published in various industry trade journals and the Wine Business Monthly.

Roger Innes, RSAP Chair, gave a brief overview of the RSAP's work and some highlights from its report. He said the RSAP analyzed 145 research projects conducted since the National Academy of Sciences conducted its review of the research effort. Key areas of progress were identified, as well as areas needing attention.

Ben Drake expressed the Board's appreciation for all the time and effort the RSAP members put into reviewing the research projects, and said they are looking forward to discussing the report in November with the RSAP members.

Tom Esser reported that the 7<sup>th</sup> annual PD Research Symposium will be held in San Diego on December 12-14, 2007. It will be held at the same location as last year's Symposium. Planning

for this year's event has begun. The members of the planning group are Nancy Irelan, George Bruening, Beth Stone-Smith, Carmen Gispert, Mark Sisterson, and David Morgan.

Tom announced that preparations have begun for this year's request for research proposals. As in recent prior years, it will be issued jointly with the UC Pierce's Disease Research Grant Program, provided that program receives funding this year. One suggested change to the process is to request letters of intent from principal investigators prior to submission of full proposals. This will give the program more lead time to find the appropriate expertise to review submitted proposals.

### **CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO G.C. SECTION 11126**

Chairman Drake determined there was no need to conduct a Closed Executive Session.

### **RECONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

N/A

### **OTHER ITEMS**

Outreach & Education Update -- Roger Spencer reported on the Outreach Subcommittee meeting held on June 13, 2007. He mentioned the continued success and positive feedback of the internet E-Blast tool that Brown-Miller Communications is using to reach out to various PD/GWSS stakeholders, including the UC system, agricultural extension, agricultural commissioners, the citrus and almond industry, and growers. They will be adding Master Gardeners and CAPCA to the email list. They have come up with a slogan, "Pierce's Disease Kills Vines," which will be used in various articles and publications. The Outreach Subcommittee has asked that another survey be done in 2008 or 2009 as a measurement tool to see how well we have improved our communications within the grape, winegrape, and citrus communities. Brown-Miller will also be advertising the upcoming PD Research Symposium scheduled in December.

Ken Freeze from Brown-Miller said they would be putting together a report that includes information from both the 2005 and 2006 surveys. The next E-Blast would be going out on Monday, July 2, 2007. They were also doing some redesigning and upgrading of the website.

Nursery Program Update -- Greg Morris reported on the nursery and pilot programs, the ad hoc nursery committee, and the new draft treatment protocol matrix. He said a Science Advisory Panel is preparing a report on the nursery stock approved treatment protocol. The report is due September 1, 2007, and the new treatment protocol will be on the November meeting agenda. This new protocol would be implemented in Spring of 2008.

Tulare County Areawide Treatment Program Update -- Craig Hanes reported on two recent GWSS finds. They were found in the same trap in Lindsay (Tulare County), about ½ mile north of the original infested area. The area is being surveyed and treatments are being applied at the find site and a ½ mile buffer around it. There are four growers in the immediate area, one being an organic grower.

### **CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 pm.